(d) whether Government propose to take steps to recover the fine from those officials who are responsible for colluding with the dealer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bank of Madura Limited had opened a few letters of credit on behalf of one Shri Vinod Kumar Didwania a dealer in steel items. The Collector of Customs, Madras on grounds of violation of Customs Act, 1962 had adjudicated the cases in respect of these transactions and ordered confiscation of the goods imported under section 111(d) of the Act. Since the supposed importers had not come forward to clear the goods, the Collector of Customs, Madras allowed the same to be redeemed by the Bank of Madura Ltd., as joint holder of the import licences on redemption fines totalling to Rs. 7 lakhs. Central Board of Excise and Customs reviewed this decision of the Collector of Customs, Madras and had thereafter directed him to apply to Customs, Central Excise and Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal for enhancement of redemption fines and also for imposition of Personal penalties on Shri Vinod Kumar Didwania and the Bank of Madura Ltd. The Customs, Excise and Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal allowed the appeals preferred by the Collector of Customs, Madras and enhanced the total fine on Bank of Madura Ltd. from Rs. 7 lakhs to Rs. 35 lakhs and also imposed a penalty of Rs. 10 lakhs on Shri Vinod Kumar Didwania.

(c) and (d) The matter has been taken up with Reserve Bank of India.

Amendment of Baggage Rules

986. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently amended the Baggage Rules for Indians returning for good on transfer of residence from foreign counties;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether adequate publicity in this regard has been given in foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) There has been no recent amendment in the Transfer of Residence Rules for Indians returning for good from foreign countries. However, the Baggage Rules have recently been amended to provide *inter alia* that in respect of Colour Televisions, Video Cassette Recorders, Video Cassette Players and Video Cameras imported into India, the duty-free allowance permitted to be set off against the value of these articles would be limited to Rs. 500. The amendments further provide that no concessional duty or free allowance will be available for clearing unaccompanied baggage.

(c) The changes have been intimated to all Indian Missions abroad for adequate publicity in those countries.

Review of public distribution system

987. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the public distribution system with a view to making the essential commodities available to the common man at reasonable prices; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of this system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) The Union Government continuously reviews and monitors the functioning of public Distribution System in the country. The Central